

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL POSS DUPE

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 04172 101634 Z

54

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ADP-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09

H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01

SS-15 USIA-12 SY-07 A-01 M-03 NEAE-00 SCA-01 PPT-02

OPR-02 AID-20 OMB-01 OC-06 CCO-00 RSR-01 /133 W
----- 028517

P 101443 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1576

INFO USINT ALGIERS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY QAMMAN PRIORITY

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY RABAT PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TUNIS PRIORITY

USMISSION USUN PRIORITY

USINT BAGHDAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 4172

DEPT PASS USINT CAIRO

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR MTCS PINS US LE IS

SUBJECT: FEDAYEEN REACTION TO ISRAELI RAID

REF: BEIRUT 4164

1. IN CONJUNCTION WITH FEDAYEEN " COMMUNIQUE" REPORTED REFTEL,
' ARAFAT REPORTEDLY WAS MEETING AT NOON WITH LEBANESE SOCIALIST
LEADER KAMAL JUMBLATT AND REPS OF OTHER LEFTIST, " PROGRESSIVE"
GROUPS TO DISCUSS MEANS OF GALVANIZING PUBLIC OPINION IN
SUPPORT OF FEDAYEEN. THEY WERE SAID TO BE CONSIDERING MOUNTING
LARGE- SCALE PROTEST MARCH AFTERNOON APR 10 TOWARD EITHER THIS
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EMBASSY OR CITY CENTER. IN ADDITION TO FORMAL FEDAYEEN CHARGE THAT ISRAELI "ELEMENTS" HAD TAKEN REFUGE ON EMBASSY PREMISES FOLLOWING IDF ATTACK EARLY APR 10, OTHER RUMORS APPEAR BE GAINING INCREASING CURRENCY (BY WORD OF MOUTH AND DISTRIBUTION OF HAND-BILLS) AMONG FEDAYEEN AND THEIR LOCAL SYMPATHIZERS. MOST NOTABTE OF THESE IS THAT ISRAELI "SECRET AGENTS" SENT TO BEIRUT PRIOR APR 10 TO PINPOINT TARGETS AND ARRANGE LOCAL TRANSPORT FOR ATTCKERS HAD ENTERED LEBANON ON US PASSPORTS. ANOTHER RUMOR HAS IT THAT ATTACKERS ESCAPED USING CARS CARRYING US EMBASSY LICENSE PLATES.

2. ALTHOUGH APR 10 RAID HAS AGAIN SERVED CONFIRM DEEP EXTENT TO WHICH ISRAELI INTELLIGENCE HAS PENETRATED FEDAYEEN MOVEMENT, MANY FEDAYEEN AS USUAL SEEM ONLY TO ANXIOUS ATTRIBUTE PRECISION AND SWIFTNESS OF IDF RAID ENTIRELY TO " TRAITORS" AND OTHER DEMONS OPERATING WITHIN COMMANDO MOVEMENT. WE UNDERSTAND SOME NOW GO SO FAR AS TO CHARGE ' ARAFAT HIMSELF WITH SECRETLY BEING IN CAHOOTS WITH ISRAELIS AND OF PASSING TO THEM INFO RE FEDAYEEN DISPOSITIONS AND WHEREABOUTS OF COMMANDO LEADERS. WHILE SOME OTHERS MAY BE PREPARED ACCEPT LATEST IDF SUCCESS AS SIMPLE CONFIRMATION OF ISRAELI PLANNING AND OPERATIONAL EXPERTISE (LEBANESE SECURITY OFFICIALS, FOR EXAMPLE, MAKE NO SECRET OF THEIR AWE AT IDF' S ABILITY TO PINPOINT WHEREABOUTS OF FEDAYEEN LEADERS WHOSE MOVEMENTS OFTEN UNKNOWN TO GOL), MOST FEEL COMPELLED LOOK FOR INDICATIONS OF ALL SORTS OF " FOUL PLAY" TO EXPLAIN AWAY THEIR OWN DEFICIENCIES WHICH LED THEM BE CAUGHT BY SURPRISE. IN THIS ATMOSPHERE-- WITH PASSIONS LIKELY BE INFLAMED FURTHER BY PUBLIC FUNERALS OF DEAD FEDAYEEN LEADERS APR 11-12-- AND GIVEN OBVIOUS DIFFICULTIES OF RETALIATING AGAINST ISRAELI ENEMY, THERE PROBABLY WILL BE GROWING IMPULSE TO VENT THEIR FRUSTRATION AGAINST THIS EMBASSY AS NEAREST CONVENIENT TARGET.
BUFFUM

NOTE BY OCT: NOT PASSED CAIRO.

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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TAGS: MTCS, PFOR, PINS, IS, LE, US
To: ALGIERS
AMEMBASSQK AMMAN
DHAHRAN
JIDDA
KUWAIT
NEA
RABAT

SECSTATE WASHDC

TEL AVIV

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